1629. *A. pruni* (Fuckel), sub *Exoascus*, Fungi Nassoviæ, 1861, p. 29.

On bag-plums. Extremely abundant on the common sloe at Sibbertoft.

**Labrella ptarmicæ*, Desm.; Fr. El. ii. p. 149.

On leaves of *Achillea ptarmicæ*. Rannoch, Dr. Buchanan White.

These are the first truly British specimens we have seen. It appeared for some successive seasons at King's Cliffe on plants brought from Lambersart already impregnated with the mycelium; but after a time the parasite vanished.

1630. *Rhytisma empetri*, B. White. Ambiens, atrum, lucidum, secundum longitudinem rugosum.

On *Empetrum nigrum*. Rannoch, Dr. Buchanan White. Completely surrounding the stem, shining jet-black, wrinkled longitudinally. The asci are straight, but immature.

XVIII.—*On the Habitat of* Uromys aruensis (*Gray*) *and its Allies*. By Dr. A. B. Meyer.

Dr. J. E. Gray, in describing (Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. ser. 4, 1873, vol. xii. p. 418) a new species of *Uromys* from my collections, introduced it with the following words:—

"The British Museum received two specimens of a male and female rat, which Dr. A. B. Meyer obtained at Aru Island in April 1870, and at Buntimunang, in the south-west part of Celebes, in November."

This note requires a rectification on my part. I never was on the Aru Islands; and in April 1870 I was still in England; in October of the same year I arrived in Java; and it was in November 1871 that I first spent some days collecting in Bantimurang (it should be "Bantimurang," and not "Buntimunang"). But, besides this, the female *Uromys* was not procured by me on South-west Celebes; it belonged to a small collection of animals from the Aru Islands, which I had bought before I came to Makassar, in September 1871. Some confusion must have happened in Europe with two of my labels, to have led Dr. Gray to the statement that *Uromys aruensis* occurs on the Aru Islands *and in the south-west of Celebes*. My diary and collection-notes are quite positive on this point; and there can remain no doubt that a mistake has been made. I regret that I did not see this incorrect statement earlier; but I now hasten to make known that from my Celebes collections no *Uromys* reached Europe. Celebes being so very poor in

mammals, it is of some consequence whether *Uromys* occurs there or not.

Although I did not collect the two specimens in question on the Aru Islands myself, I have no doubt that the locality is correct, because I discovered a closely allied species on New Guinea in May 1873, near Rubi, the south point of Geelvink Bay (therefore not very far from the Aru Islands)—which I call *Uromys papuanus*.

The habitats of the three now known species of *Uromys*, which are very closely allied to each other, are therefore the following :—

1. *Uromys macropus* (Gray) : North Australia, Cape York.
2. —— *aruensis*, Gray : Aru Islands.
3. —— *papuanus*, Meyer : New Guinea, Rubi.

Royal Natural-History Museum,
Dresden, January 23, 1876.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTICE.

Medicinal Plants ; being Descriptions with Original Figures of the Principal Plants employed in Medicine, and an Account of their Properties and Uses. By R. Bentley, F.L.S., and H. Trimen, M.B., F.L.S. London : J. & A. Churchill, 1876. (Four parts issued.)

This work will supply a want which has been felt for a long time, as there is no recent trustworthy book in the English language on the important subject with which it deals ; and now that Flückiger and Hanbury's admirable 'Pharmacographia' is published, an illustrated handbook of the plants used in medicine seems more needed than ever. The present work is issued in monthly parts, and contains original coloured plates (natural size), with botanical descriptions and an account of the geographical distribution and officinal properties, of the plants that yield the drugs in common use. In making the selection the British Pharmacopœia has been taken as a foundation ; and to the species there included have been added a number of others used medicinally in India and the United States. Altogether the selection made includes between 250 and 300 species. Four parts of the work are already out, with eight or, if the plate be double, seven plants in each. No regular botanical order has been followed ; but the plates are numbered so that they may be bound in botanical sequence, according to the natural system, when the book is finished. Of common European officinal plants we have flax, rue, white and black mustard, the juniper, the common poppy, and foxglove ; amongst cultivated fruits, the olive, orange, quince,